(b) One Short Stay Home has been sanctioned in Goa under the Scheme to a voluntary organization.

(c) Amount released to voluntary organization for running Short Stay Homes in Goa during the last five years is as under:

Year	Amount released
2002-03	Rs. 3,50,197/-
2003-04	Rs. 2,45,444/-
2004-05	Rs. 3,87,390/-
2005-06	Rs. 63,219/-
2006-07	Rs. 2,92,433/-

(d) and (e) Sanction of new project under the Scheme is dependant on the need therefor and receipt of proposal meeting the schematic norms.

Long term plan against maltreatment of children

†3027. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a long term plan is under consideration in view of maltreatment against children;

(b) whether deliberations will be held jointly with the Ministries of Information and Broadcasting, Human Resource Development and Culture on it;

(c) if so, the details of the stipulated action plan;

(d) whether successful experiments in the fields of education and culture will also figure in these deliberations; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (e) Ministry of Women and Child Development has recently got conducted a National level Study on Child Abuse which was released of 9th April, 2007. The

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

study has provided statistics on the extent and magnitude of various forms of child abuse. The study has also thrown up data on variations among different age groups, gender variations, state variations and variations within evidence groups. The findings will help to strengthen the understanding of all stakeholders including families, civil society organizations and the state. The Report of the Study is available on the website of the Ministry at *www.ced.nic.in*

The Ministry after going through the findings of the report will draw up a plan to reduce child abuse and maltreatment in the country after due consideration and after consultation with all concerned Government and non-government agencies.

Practice of Devdasi

†3028. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are several such States where in the name of caste and religion the custom of Devdasi is in practice since centuries;

(b) if so, the names of the States alongwith the details thereof;

(c) the steps Government are taking to do away with this custom under which physical and mental exploitation of women is done;

(d) the number of such women in the country who are being made victims of exploitation under this custom of Devdasi;

(e) the names of those places, monasteries and temples where this custom is in practice since centuries; and

(f) the action being taken against those people involved in it alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) As per information available, the custom of Devdasi is in practice in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. These States have Acts on prohibition and dedication of Devdasis.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.